

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2648

To ensure excellent recruitment and training of math and science teachers
at institutions of higher education.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 2001

Mr. ALLEN (for himself, Mr. BALDACCI, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. FROST, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HOLT, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. REYES, and Mr. WAXMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To ensure excellent recruitment and training of math and
science teachers at institutions of higher education.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. TEACHER RECRUITMENT.**

4 Subpart 1 of part A of title IV of the Higher Edu-
5 cation Act of 1965 is amended—

6 (1) in chapter 3, by redesignating section 407E
7 (20 U.S.C. 1070a–35) as section 406E; and

1 (2) by inserting after such chapter 3 the fol-
2 lowing new chapter:

3 **“CHAPTER 4—FUTURE MATH AND SCIENCE**
4 **TEACHER RECRUITMENT**

5 **“SEC. 407A. SHORT TITLE; FINDINGS.**

6 “(a) SHORT TITLE.—This chapter may be cited as
7 the ‘Recruit and Reward Future Math and Science Teach-
8 ers of America Act of 2001’.

9 “(b) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

10 “(1) United States high school students rate
11 16th and 19th, respectively, in science and math out
12 of 21 countries.

13 “(2) Of United States high school students who
14 take math courses, 22 percent are taught by teach-
15 ers who did not prepare in that field.

16 “(3) Of United States high school students who
17 take biology courses, 24 percent are taught by teach-
18 ers who did not prepare in that field.

19 “(4) Of United States high school students who
20 take chemistry courses, 30 percent are taught by
21 teachers who did not prepare in that field.

22 “(5) Of United States high school students who
23 take physics courses, 56 percent are taught by
24 teachers who did not prepare in that field.

1 “(6) Teachers’ knowledge and skills powerfully
2 influence student learning.

3 “(7) More than 2,000,000 teachers will need to
4 be hired over the next decade.

5 “(8) The ability of the United States to place
6 highly qualified math and science teachers special-
7 izing in their field of instruction will depend on
8 proactive policies that increase funding for teacher
9 training, recruitment, and induction.

10 **“SEC. 407B. PURPOSE; APPROPRIATIONS AUTHORIZED.**

11 “(a) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this chapter to
12 make grants available, through a pilot program, to eligible
13 institutions described in section 407C, to enable such in-
14 stitutions to provide 500 scholarship awards to out-
15 standing students enrolled in an accredited teacher train-
16 ing graduate program who are committed to pursuing ca-
17 reers teaching math and science at an urban or rural sec-
18 ondary level classroom.

19 “(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
20 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this chapter
21 \$5,000,000 in each of the fiscal years 2002, 2003, and
22 2004.

1 **“SEC. 407C. SCHOLARSHIP DESIGNATION AND SELECTION**
2 **CRITERIA.**

3 “(a) SCHOLARSHIP DESIGNATION.—Funds made
4 available under this chapter shall be designated as the
5 ‘National Math and Science Teacher Scholarships’.

6 “(b) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary of Edu-
7 cation may award funds for National Math and Science
8 Teacher Scholarships on a competitive basis to qualifying
9 institutions of higher education that have graduate pro-
10 grams in teacher training. The Secretary may not provide
11 any individual institution of higher education with more
12 than \$100,000 per academic year for the purpose of the
13 National Math and Science Teacher Scholarships. An in-
14 stitution applying for such scholarships may only be eligi-
15 ble to receive funds if such institution is ranked by the
16 Secretary in the top 25 percent of schools in the State
17 in which the institution is located with the highest percent-
18 age of graduates passing the State teacher qualification
19 assessment for new teachers. Notwithstanding the pre-
20 ceding sentence, if there are fewer than 4 such institutions
21 in a State, only the institution with the highest percentage
22 of such graduates shall be eligible to receive funding.

23 “(c) PRIORITIES.—The Secretary shall give priority
24 to eligible institutions that meet 1 or more of the following
25 criteria:

1 “(1) Provide a year long internship program in
2 a professional development school.

3 “(2) Provide mentoring programs for novice
4 teachers in their first 3 years.

5 “(3) Demonstrate a history of placing grad-
6 uates in rural and urban schools.

7 “(4) Demonstrate that there is a high retention
8 rate of teachers that the institution places in teach-
9 ing positions.

10 **“SEC. 407D. INDIVIDUAL SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY.**

11 “An individual may be eligible for a National Math
12 and Science Teacher Scholarship only if such individual—

13 “(1) is a citizen or national of the United
14 States or an alien lawfully admitted to the United
15 States for permanent residence;

16 “(2) is majoring in a physical or life science or
17 mathematics graduate teacher training program;

18 “(3) is enrolled in a higher education institution
19 that—

20 “(A) is ranked by the Secretary in the top
21 25 percent of schools in the State in which the
22 institution is located with the highest percent-
23 age of graduates passing the State teacher
24 qualification assessment for new teachers; or

1 “(B) if there are fewer than 4 such institu-
2 tions in a State, is the institution with the high-
3 est percentage of such graduates; and

4 “(4) is willing to teach math or science in a
5 rural or urban public secondary school for no less
6 than 3 full academic years.

7 **“SEC. 407E. SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT.**

8 “(a) AMOUNT OF AWARD.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount of a scholar-
10 ship awarded by participating teacher training grad-
11 uate programs under this chapter for any academic
12 year shall be \$10,000 per student, except that in no
13 case shall the total amount of the scholarship exceed
14 the total cost of attendance.

15 “(2) INSUFFICIENT FUNDS.—In any fiscal year
16 in which the amount appropriated to carry out this
17 chapter is insufficient to award 500 scholarships, the
18 Secretary shall reduce the number of awards to eligi-
19 ble institutions.

20 “(b) ASSISTANCE NOT TO EXCEED COST OF AT-
21 TENDANCE.—No individual shall receive an award under
22 this chapter in any academic year which exceeds the cost
23 of attendance. A scholarship awarded under this chapter
24 shall not be reduced on the basis of the student’s receipt
25 of other forms of Federal student financial assistance.

1 **“SEC. 407F. AGREEMENT; SCHOLARSHIP REPAYMENT PRO-**
2 **VISIONS.**

3 “(a) AGREEMENT.—Recipients of the National Math
4 and Science Teachers Scholarships shall agree to teach in
5 an urban or rural public secondary school for no less than
6 3 full academic years.

7 “(b) REPAYMENT FOR FAILURE TO FULFILL
8 AGREEMENT.—Any recipients of a Scholarship found by
9 the Secretary to be in noncompliance with the agreement
10 entered into under subsection (a) of this section shall be
11 required to repay a pro rata amount of the scholarship
12 awards received, plus interest and, where applicable, rea-
13 sonable collection fees, on a schedule and at a rate of in-
14 terest prescribed by the Secretary by regulations.

15 **“SEC. 407G. EXCEPTIONS TO REPAYMENT PROVISIONS.**

16 “An individual recipient of a Scholarship under this
17 chapter shall not be considered in violation of the agree-
18 ment entered into pursuant to section 407F during any
19 period in which the recipient—

20 “(1) is pursuing a full-time course of study in
21 math and science at an accredited institution;

22 “(2) is serving, not in excess of 3 years, as a
23 member of the armed services of the United States;

24 “(3) is temporarily disabled for a period of time
25 not to exceed 3 years as established by sworn affi-
26 davit of a qualified physician;

1 “(4) is seeking and unable to find full-time em-
2 ployment for a single period not to exceed 12
3 months;

4 “(5) is seeking and unable to find full-time em-
5 ployment as a math and science teacher in a public
6 or private nonprofit elementary or secondary school
7 or education program for a single period not to ex-
8 ceed 27 months;

9 “(6) satisfies the provision of additional repay-
10 ment exceptions that may be prescribed by the Sec-
11 retary in regulations issued pursuant to this section;
12 or

13 “(7) is permanently totally disabled, as estab-
14 lished by sworn affidavit of a qualified physician.

15 **“SEC. 407H. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

16 “Three years after the date on which funds are first
17 made available to carry out this chapter, the Secretary of
18 Education shall submit a report to Congress evaluating
19 the success of the National Math and Science Teacher
20 Scholarships pilot program in recruiting math and science
21 teachers to teach in America’s public secondary schools.”.

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